

Applicant: Cong Thanh DINH
Application Serial No.: 10/764,105
Filing Date: January 23, 2004
Docket No.: 577-614
Page 2

REMARKS

Claims 6-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,808,172 to Buckels. This determination is respectfully traversed.

Undersigned counsel wishes to thank Examiner Patel for the courtesies which were extended to applicant's representatives at a personal interview which was recently conducted at Examiner Patel's office in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

As reported in the Examiner Interview Summary, independent claim 6 was discussed and a sample of the present invention was shown to the Examiner. After discussions regarding the sample and the Buckels reference, the Examiner agreed that features set forth in claim 6 are not found in Buckels. It was noted that Buckels fails to disclose, *inter alia*, a reversible bracket. As Buckels fails to disclose each and every element of claim 6, it cannot be anticipatory of the present claims.

The Examiner, however, indicated that after having seen the sample and demonstration provided by applicant's representatives, further study with respect to U.S. Patent No. 4,927,039 to McNab was required. The McNab reference was previously cited against the claims of the present application in an Office Action mailed May 27, 2004. In a response dated September 13,

Applicant: Cong Thanh DINH
Application Serial No.: 10/764,105
Filing Date: January 23, 2004
Docket No.: 577-614
Page 3

2004, applicants set forth the distinctions between the McNab reference and the claims of the present invention. The Examiner is referred to this previous response.

In summary, the McNab reference shows an outlet box having a receptacle attachment 12. The receptacle attachment includes a planar flange 14 and faces 23 and 25 which extend oppositely from the flange 14. In the McNab reference, the extending faces 23 and 25 are designed for positioning onto and against the front edge of the box. This is clearly shown in Figures 3 and 4. This is contrary to the present invention where it is the planar flange which is designed for positioning onto and against the front face of the box. This allows accommodation of wall board at the face of the box not, as with McNab, spaced from the box.

Apparently, after filing a response on September 13, 2004, the Examiner agreed with applicant's analysis and removed the McNab reference as a reference against the claims substituting instead newly uncovered references including the presently cited Buckels reference.

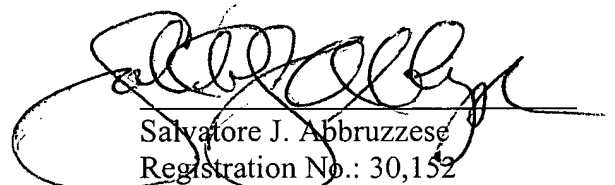
Having distinguished the McNab reference herein, as well as in a previous response, and having distinguished the Buckels reference at the most recent interview, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of the present invention are patentably distinct over the references of record. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

Applicant: Cong Thanh DINH
Application Serial No.: 10/764,105
Filing Date: January 23, 2004
Docket No.: 577-614
Page 4

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461. Such authorization includes authorization to charge fees for extensions of time, if any, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and also should be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this reply or any future reply pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Salvatore J. Abbruzzese
Registration No.: 30,152
Attorney for Applicant(s)

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(973) 331-1700